say that they were absent. I said, "Not present". Now, there are no other speakers. The reply can be given by Mr. Khalap...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: If he gives some assurance.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, a number of points have been raised by hon. Members which strictly do not pertain to the issue which is before this House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): But you will supply the statistics asked for.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: As for the requests for taking a second look at the Industrial Disputes Act, constituting a Committee of M.Ps., etc., I think the Ministry themselves would respond to them.

Sir, I request the House to pass the Bill.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Sir, I seek the leave of the House to withdraw my resolution in view of the good gesture of the Minister.

The Statutory Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Now, the question in:

That the Bill further to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Congratulations, Mr. Minister.

(THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN IN THE CHAIR)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, we have passed two Bills today within a short span of time.

THE EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUNDS AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1993—

MOTION FOR REFERENCE TO A SELECT COMMITTEE

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA (Bihar): Madam, I have a submission to make. I would request that the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1993, listed today, be referred to a Select Committee. Some of us want to have a thorough, in-depth, discussion on certain areas of the Bill. So, if it is referred to a Select Committee, it could be done. Only three or four days' time may be given so that we can take up the Bill next week.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me find out if the Government is agreeable to this.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam Deputy Chairperson, I agree with ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Madam, I have not yet finished with my submission. May I complete it?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sure.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, we have all agreed.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Then it is okay.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I am only expressing the agreement on behalf of my party. I think nobody is opposed to it.

So, there is no need for a long speech.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister should move the motion-either private or Government motion—whatever it is. Mr. Minister, you move it and give the names and the Govenrment should accept the names. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALU): It has to be passed within one day. Otherwise, the Ordinance will lapse. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has to be passed before 2nd of August, 1996. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: We can discuss it within three days during the next week. Let it be discussed in three days only *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): This is an issue on which there is a broad consensus. But there has been a little difference of opinion also. Nobody in this House wants that an important Bill like this should be passed by ignoring the difference of opinion. If there is any, from somebody, Therefore, I am in agreement with my two colleagues. I am suggesting, let a Select Committee be formed and we will give our report within three days. This bill will lapse only on the 2nd of August, 1996. Today is Monday, the 22nd. We have Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—three days. By the end of this week, we shall be able to finish. *(Interruptions)* What I am suggesting is that the ordinance that has been promulgated, is likely to expire on 15th or 16th August, 1996. But we are given to understand that this Session shall come to an end on 2nd August, 1996. Therefore, 2nd August, 1996 is the last day. Much before that, by the end of this week, this House can definitely discuss the report of the Select Committee. Let the time-frame be for three days. There is a general consensus on it. Therefore, it is unnecessary for us to have more than that time. If possible, we can present the report before that. But what I am imploring you is that let such a Select Committee be formed.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): मुझे खाली यह कहना है कि मुझे इत्तफाक है। सिलेक्ट कमेटी जरूर बन जाए और यह भी है कि हमें निजी तौर पर बैठकर यह तय करेंगे कि कितने दिन में पास करना है लेकिन To presume what the Select Committee is going to do and to bring it on record, is not correct.

ठीक नहीं है। आप आपस में बैठकर तय कीजिए कि हमें जल्दी पास करना है, दो तारीख से पहले इसको निकलवाना है। लेकिन यहां तो सिर्फ इतना सवाल है कि इसका सिलेक्ट कमेटी के लिए मेंशन कर दिया जाए। दैट इज़ आल। बाकी सब डिटेल्स की बातें रिकार्ड पर लाने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है।

†[نیتا ورودھی دل "شری سکندر بخت":
مجھے خالی یہ کہنا ہے کہ مجھے اتفاق ہے کہ "سلیکٹ
کمیٹی" ضرور بن جائے اور یہ بھی ہے کہ ہم
نجی طور پر بیٹھ کر یہ طے کریں گے کہ کتنے دن
میں پاس کرنا ہے لیکن]

To presume what the Select Committee is going to do and to bring it on record, is not correct.

†[ٹھیک نہیں ہے۔ آپ آپس میں بیٹھ کر
طے کیجئے کہ ہمیں جلدی پاس کرنا ہے]

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†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I agree with Sikander Bakht Ji. The only thing with which you are also agreeing is that we will have to keep in mind that we have the Railway Budget to discuss and we have other things to discuss. So, from that point of view, before 2nd August, 1996 we have to finish it. So, the minimum possible time could be three days. The report can come within this period and then the Bill can be brought before the House *(Interruptions)*

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, may I suggest to make it 29th forenoon? *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUSTY CHAIRMAN: We cannot keep it arbitrarily. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Madam, I have a submission. I am very much concerned with this Bill because for 32 years I remained a wage-earner. As I understand, this is the most critical Bill, ever introduced in Parliament, and therefore, some time may be required. let it be referred to the Select Committee without putting any time-limit. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us apply our mind by looking at the situation which is before us that the Ordinance has a time-limit. It has to be passed before the end of this Session. Otherwise, it will lapse, and again, another Ordinance shall have to be brought. Presumably, 2nd August, 1996 is the last day of this Session.

So, before 2nd August it has to be passed. I understand your concern that you want it to be discussed, but it is good enought that it is going to a Select Committee which will go into the other aspects of it and you work hard in the Select Committee, and setting a time-limit for a Select Committee is not an assurance that a good Bill is going to come. Whether or not you get a good Bill depends upon how committedly you work in it. So, if it is a short period and you have to decide to bring a good Bill wheatever you feel as a labour leader or as a person who has gone through it, I am sure that it will be done. Sikander Bakht Saheb is only saying, "Let us not set a date that he will put it on 29th, 28th or 27th, because he cannot do it." But we must get the Report as soon as possible. Okay?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Madam, that is better. That is all right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Agreed. Then no more discussion. That is over. Now let the Minister speak.

SHRI MD. SALIM (West Bengal): Madam, I want to make only one point. The Bill has to be sent to the Lok Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have to send it to the Lok Sabha after passing it over here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

AN HON. MEMBER: Do it in two days.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is good. I agree with that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): Madam, concerning this point that a particular date may be fixed, what I would suggest is that if the Members may agree, then within three days from today, i.e. 22nd, 23rd and 24th, the maximum, the Report should come to the House.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Mr. Minister, you kindly sit with the Members and then decide. Let it not be decided like this. You cannot presume all this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I agree that considering the constraint of time that it has to be passed from here and has to go to the Lok Sabha before the 2nd of August. Keeping your suggestion in mind, we should set a time-limit, and we will work it out not in the House, but in the Chamber. Okay? Now let us move the motion for the constitution of a Select Committee.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, I beg to move:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are certain amendments. As regards this Bill which is before me it has also been pinpointed by Mr. Jibon Roy, Mr. Baby and Mr. Joyanta Roy that they wanted to move a motion to send it to a Select Committee. So, either we can go along with that or you can move a motion. I would be better if it comes from the Government.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, I propose the names of the following hon. Members to form the Select Committee: Smt. Kamla Sinha, Shri Som Pal, Shri Jibon Roy...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, you may not announce the names of Members. Mr. Minister, you please say, ' 'That the Bill be sent to a Select Committee." ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: I have moved it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The motion is moved. ...*(Interruptions)*... The names of Members we will discuss later because every party will have to send the names of its Members.

SHRI JIBON ROY: All right.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The names would be coming. ...*(Interruptions)*... After adopting the motion we can adjourn the House.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Just one minute, Madam. We must have a broad consultation as to how the Committee is going to be formed.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहिब, मैं यह मूव करता हूं कि जो मोशन है, कंसल्ट करके कमेटी कंस्टीट्यूट कर दें। ...(व्यवधान)...

†[شری سکندر بخت: ڈپٹی چیئرمین صاحب
میں یہ موو کرتا ہوں کہ جو "موشن" ہے
کنسلٹ کرکے کمیٹی کو کنسٹی ٹیوٹ کر دیں
... "مداخلت" ...]

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, first let me get this motion concerning the constitution of a Select Committee passed in the House. I want the dispute on the Select Committee to be over. Now everybody has agreed that there should be a Select Committee. Now question is:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, be referred to a Select Committee."

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you can sit with me and discuss the names and we will get it done. All right? ...*(Interruptions)*... If the Minister sits with me, I will decide the names and I will ask the other party leaders to give the names of Members from their parties and finish it also.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: The Minister has already discussed it with different parties.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you don't have to dispute everything in this House. We are trying to remove the disputes among the labour unions and let us not have a disput in the Rajya Sabha. It is a small matter. I will adjourn the House for sometime. We will meet agains here.

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†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

SHRI RAGHAVJI (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, you adjourn the House till 6.30 P.M.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't know whether will finish it at 6.30 P.M. or not. As soon as the Budget Speech is over in the Lok Sabha, at 6.30 P.M. we will be meeting here in the Rajya Sabha again for the Budget to be laid on the Table of the House. So, the House is adjourned till that period.

The House then adjourned at twenty-six minutes past four of the clock.

The House reassembled at thirty-five minutes past six of the clock, **the Deputy Chairman** in the Chair.

श्री सिकन्दर बख़्त: सदर साहिबा, अब तो जगह-जगह से शेयरों की बारिश होने लगी है।

†[نیتا ورودھی دل "شری سکندر بخت": صدر صاحبہ - اب تو جگہ جگہ سے شعروں کی بارش ہونے لگی ہے]

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: यहां भी एक शेर होना चाहिए। चिदम्बरम जी शेर कहकर उसके बाद बजट ले करें।

†[شری محمد سلیم: یہاں بھی ایک شعر ہونا چاہیئے - چدمبرم جی - ایک شعر کہہ کر اسکے بعد بجٹ لے کریں]

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I must say that in spite of the fact that he comes from Tamil Nadu and Urdu is not his language, he did very well. So we congratulate him for doing that. I cannot read Tamil so well.

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, today he spoke in Hindi also.

THE BUDGET (GENERAL), 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government for the year 1996-97.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What about a *sher*?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I should come from the Chair, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would you like me to do it for you? Would the House allow me to do that; Match it Iqbal to Iqbal. There is a very famous *sher* which I like:

ऐ ताइरे लाहूती, उस रिज़्क़ से मौत अच्छी
जिस रिज़्क़ से आती हो परवाज़ में कोताही।।

The meaning is a high-flying bird flies very high in the sky. It is better to die than to come down from that height even to take food. So your flight should not be disturbed even for your food and you should keep flying high.

श्री सिकन्दर बख़्त: सदर साहिबा, शेयर भी समझ में आ गया, शेयर के मानी भी समझ में आ गए, सूरते हाल पर उसका इत्तलाक़ क्या है, यह बताइए।

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†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.